

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Junji MACHIDA et al.

Prior Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Prior Filing Date: December 5, 2003

For: DEVELOPING DEVICE AND IMAGE  
FORMING APPARATUS

Prior Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § § 1.97 & 1.98**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § § 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related application Serial Number 09/924,494, filed August 9, 2001, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 CFR §1.98(d) and MPEP 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

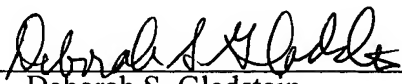
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 325772026410.

Dated: December 15, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Deborah S. Gladstein  
Registration No. 43,636

Morrison & Foerster LLP  
1650 Tysons Boulevard  
Suite 300  
McLean, Virginia 22102  
Telephone: (703) 760-7753  
Facsimile: (703) 760-7777

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number 325772026410	Application Number to be assigned
	Applicant  Junji MACHIDA et al.	
	Filing Date December 5, 2003	Group Art Unit to be assigned

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1.	08-15-2000	6,103,438	Kubo et al.			
	2.	02-23-1999	5,875,379	Machida et al.			
	3.	09-15-1998	5,807,654	Kubo et al.			
	4.	11-05-1996	5,571,653	Kasuya et al.			
	5.	08-20-1996	5,547,794	Demizu et al.			
	6.	09-05-1995	5,447,813	Hagiwara et al.			
	7.	07-25-1995	5,436,701	Shimojo et a.			
	8.	06-06-1995	5,422,707	Takiguchi et al.			
	9.	04-18-1995	5,407,776	Kanbayashi et al.			
	10.	05-31-1994	5,317,370	Kohyama et al.			
	11.	06-08-1993	5,217,836	Takiguchi et al.			
	12.	01-05-1993	5,177,323	Kohyama			
	13.	11-20-1990	4,971,879	Kimura et al.			
*	14.	04/1999	5,893,014	Goto et al.			
*	15.	03/2002	6,360,069	Mimura et al.			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

*(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title

\* Denotes references cited by the Examiner

EXAMINER: (examiner)	DATE CONSIDERED:
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.